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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/565,792	01/25/2006	Franck Roland	6003.1042	7520
23280 7590 01/11/2008 Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC 485 17th Avenue 14th Floor New York, NY 10018			EXAMINER HINZE, LEO T	
			ART UNIT 2854	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/11/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/565,792		ROLAND ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Leo T. Hinze		2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 January 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20060125</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 21 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. Claim 21 depends from claim 10, which has been cancelled. To expedite prosecution, the examiner will treat claim 21 as if it depends from Claim 11.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 11-13 and 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Etchell et al., US 4,313,378 A (hereafter Etchell).

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a. Regarding claim 11, Etchell teaches a sleeve-like cover (52, 53, Fig. 1) for a cylinder in a press (10, Fig. 1), for holding a plate-like printing form (12, Fig. 1) comprising: material having a slit (20, Fig. 1) running parallel to an axis of rotation of the cover, edges of a printing form fixable in the slit via at least one retaining force element (30, Fig. 1).

The examiner is interpreting the claim term "slit" to mean "slit-like." The definition of slit, according to the online version of Merriam-Webster, is "a long narrow cut or opening." As claimed, slit 12 does not appear cut or opening in the sleeve-like cover 10, because the sleeve-like cover 10 appears to be a single element in Fig. 1. However, when sleeve-like cover 10 is installed on a printing cylinder, the gap 12 between the two ends appears to be similar to a slit. Therefore, the examiner will interpret "slit" to mean "slit-like."

b. Regarding claim 12, Etchell teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11 above. Etchell also teaches at least one retaining force element being fixed in the slit (30, Fig. 3).

c. Regarding claim 13, Etchell teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11 above. Etchell also teaches wherein the slit (48, Fig. 3) widens trapezoidally from an outer circumferential surface into an interior of the sleeve-like cover or the slit is symmetrical to a plane in which an axis of symmetry of the sleeve-like cover runs (see trapezoidal shape of 48, Fig. 3).

d. Regarding claim 16, Etchell teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11 above. Etchell also teaches wherein the

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material includes a layer structure with a number of layers (the sleeve-like structure 52, 53, is a layer structure where the number of layers is one).

e. Regarding claim 17, Etchell teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11 above. Etchell also teaches wherein the material permits elastic deformation of the sleeve-like cover at least in the radial direction so that an internal diameter or an external diameter of the sleeve-like cover can be varied. The material of the Etchell sleeve is Delrin (col. 5, ll. 33-36), and it appears that in Fig. 1, the sleeve-like members 52 and 53 could deform elastically in the radial direction if they were fitted to a cylinder with a slightly larger or smaller diameter.

f. Regarding claim 18, Etchell teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11 above. Etchell also teaches wherein the material includes at least one recess in an inner circumferential surface (55, Fig. 1), at least one protrusion or at least one lever element engagable in the recess to produce a tangential tension of the sleeve-like cover.

g. Regarding claim 19, Etchell teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 18, as discussed in the rejection of claim 18 above. Etchell also teaches where the at least one recess includes two recesses (see two recesses 55 in each sleeve-like cover 52, 53, Fig. 1).

h. Regarding claim 20, Etchell teaches a method for varying a printing length of a press comprising exchanging a sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11 with a further sleeve-like cover of a different external diameter ("radial dimension of the blanket should... be equal to the outer diameter of the blanket," col. 5, ll. 37-42).

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i. Regarding claim 21, Etchell teaches a method of fitting a plate-like printing form to a sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11 (see rejection of claim 11 above) comprising the steps of: introducing a leading edge of the edges of printing form into the slit in the sleeve-like cover of the printing form (edge 41, Fig. 3); winding the printing form onto an outer circumferential surface of the sleeve-like cover (12 wrapped around 10, Fig. 1); and introducing a trailing edge of the edges of printing form into the slit in the sleeve-like cover of the printing form (edge 42, Fig. 3), the leading edge and the trailing edge of the printing form being clamped between the retaining force element and a wall of the slit (edges clamped by 30, Fig. 3).

5. Claims 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fermi et al., US 4,191,106 (hereafter Fermi).

a. Regarding claim 11, Fermi teaches a sleeve-like cover (2, Figs. 1, 3) for a cylinder in a press (1, Fig. 1), for holding a plate-like printing form (6, Fig. 1) comprising: material having a slit (see gap between ends of 2, Fig. 3) running parallel to an axis of rotation of the cover, edges of a printing form fixable in the slit via at least one retaining force element (25, Fig. 3).

b. Regarding claim 15, Fermi teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11 above. Fermi also teaches a first and a second leaf spring for pressing on the edges of the printing form in the slit against a wall of the slit (25, Fig. 3).

6. Claims 11 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Albright, US 3,791,295 (hereafter Albright).

- a. Regarding claim 11, Albright teaches a sleeve-like cover (54, Fig. 3) for a cylinder in a press (14, Fig. 1), for holding a plate-like printing form (12, Fig. 1) comprising: material having a slit running parallel to an axis of rotation of the cover (see slit, Fig. 3), edges of a printing form fixable in the slit via at least one retaining force element (66, Fig. 3).
- b. Regarding claim 14, Etchell teaches the sleeve-like cover as recited in claim 11, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11 above. Etchell also teaches wherein edges of the slit formed with the outer circumferential surface are rounded (see rounded edges of 54, Fig. 3).

Conclusion

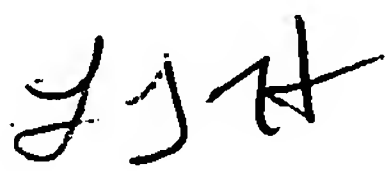
7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leo T. Hinze whose telephone number is 571.272.2864. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on 571.272.2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

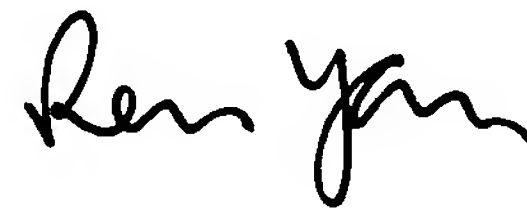
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Leo T. Hinze
Patent Examiner
AU 2854
04 January 2008



REN YAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER